meeting working capital requirements and also for payment of wages and gratuity.

2. M/s Burn Standard Co. Ltd. (BSCL):— All the employees, barring those in Raniganj and Gulfarbari Units, have been paid wages upto June, 1995. Payment has been made in Raniganj unit upto fortnight ending 17.6.95 and in Gulfarbari unit upto fortnight ending 10.6.95. The Deptt. of Heavy Industry has submitted a proposal to Ministry of Finance for release of funds to BSCL for payment of wages.

3. Reyrolle Burn Ltd. (RBL):— The employees have been paid wages and salary upto June, 1995.

4. National Textile Corporation (NTC):— Out of 9 units, wages have been paid upto date in 7 units. In two units, fifteen days' wages are yet to be paid.

5. National Jute Manufactures Corporation (NJMC):— Wages have been paid upto date.

Shortage of Coal

*113. SHRI G.G. SWELL:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that stock shortage of coal during 1991-92 was worth Rs.130.79 crores and the figures rose to Rs.234 crores and 250 crores during 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively; and

(b) if so, what action has been contemplated in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) As per the audited accounts of Coal India limited and its subsidiary companies, the value of shortage of coal for the year 1991-92 to 1993-94 is as follows:—

1991-92	Rs. 146.42 crores
1992-93	Rs. 42.82 crores
1993-94	Rs. 69.10 crores

(b) Provision has been made in the audited accounts and profit and loss statements for these shortages.

Action to fix responsibility for the shortages as per the established procedures of Coal India Limited has been initiated.

Reaction of International Market to Imports by India

*114. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that whenever India has announced its intention to import any item in bulk, international market has reacted adversely by hiking the price of that item;

(b) whether Government have identified the reasons for such a reaction; and

(c) whether any procedure is being evolved to avoid such reactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) Any bulk import of commodities by India or any other large country is likely to have an impact on the international markets/ prices depending on the supply elasticity, demand pattern of other major importers, the type of products, etc. The transparency and openness in the procedure adopted by India in effecting such purchases can be expected to influence the market sentiment whenever bulk purchase operations are undertaken by public sector organisations.

(c) As part of the liberalisation process under way, items of mass consumption such as pulses sugar and edible oil have